

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-06 L-03 OES-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01  
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00  
EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07  
INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01  
PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAL-01 /114 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER/BTK  
APPROVED BY ARA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER  
D/LOS:GTAFT (SUBS)  
L/OES:DACOLSON  
OES/OFA:  
L:MBFELDMAN

-----142317Z 040193 /64

O 142255Z FEB 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 033306

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, PBOR, BF, US

SUBJECT: 200 MILE LIMIT FOR FISHERIES ZONE BOUNDARIES

REFS: STATE 28377; NASSAU 194, 203, 204

1. BAHAMAS AMBASSADOR JOHNSON PHONED DEPTOFF AFTERNOON  
FEBRUARY 11 TO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT "AGGRESSIVE" U.S.  
EMBASSY EFFORT ON LOS QUESTIONS. HE ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE  
MEETING AND WAS RECEIVED BY COUNTRY DIRECTOR.

2. IN COURSE OF SOMEWHAT RAMBLING AND DISJOINTED CONVERSA-  
TION, JOHNSON MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:  
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A. GCOB INTENDS TO ENACT FISHERIES ZONE LEGISLATION  
PATTERNED "ALMOST WORD FOR WORD" ON U.S. LEGISLATION.

B. BAHAMAS DELIBERATELY AVOIDING ANY ACTION TO ASSERT  
ARCHIPELAGO AT THIS TIME.

C. GCOB INTENTIONS ON FISHERIES ZONE LEGISLATION SIGNALLING BOTH PRIVATELY TO U.S. EMBASSY AND PUBLICLY BY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ADDERLEY. (JOHNSON LEFT BEHIND A COPY OF JANUARY 19 MIAMI HERALD ARTICLE QUOTING ADDERLEY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE FOR THE BAHAMAS.)

D. RECENT STATEMENTS BY U.S. AMBASSADOR AND DCM IN NASSAU SEEMED TO CONSTITUTE AN IMPROPER EFFORT TO INFLUENCE INTENDED BAHAMIAN LEGISLATION. THE GCOB DOES NOT WISH TO RECEIVE PROPOSED OXMAN MISSION IF PURPOSE IS TO DISCUSS BAHAMIAN LEGISLATION.

3. WE ASSURED JOHNSON FORCEFULLY THAT USG INTENTION CERTAINLY IS NOT IN ANY WAY TO INTERFERE IN BAHAMIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OR ATTEMPT TO EXERCISE IMPROPER INFLUENCE ON BAHAMIAN LEGISLATIVE PROCESS. WE EXPLAINED THAT OUR LEGISLATION REQUIRES US TO INSTRUCT THE COAST GUARD WHERE OUR FISHERIES ZONE IS TO BE ENFORCED AS OF MARCH 1, AND WE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT GCOB BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE. WE STRESSED THAT PURPOSE OF OXMAN VISIT WOULD BE TO CONVEY THIS INFO AND TO SOLICIT THEIR VIEWS.

4. JOHNSON MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WAS ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS AND WOULD REPORT TO ADDERLEY. HALF AN HOUR AFTER MEETING IN DEPT, JOHNSON AGAIN CALLED COUNTRY DIRECTOR TO SAY THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO ADDERLEY. AFTER HEARING SUBSTANCE OF JOHNSON'S CONVERSATION WITH US, ADDERLEY SAID THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM WITH OXMAN CONFIDENTIAL

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GROUP COMING TO NASSAU AS PROPOSED. HOWEVER, HE ASKED FOR CONFIRMATION THAT USG INTENTION IS INDEED TO DISCUSS REQUIREMENTS OF OUR LEGISLATION AND GET BAHAMIAN VIEWS.

5. WE ARE NOT CLEAR THAT CAUSED THIS UPROAR, BUT ASSUME EMBASSY MAY BE RIGHT IN BELIEVING ADDEBLEY HAS REGSTERING CHAGRIN AT EMB EFFORT TO GO OVER HIS HEAD TO PINDLING ON THIS ISSUE. REGARDLESS OF MOTIVES WE DO NOT FIND GCOB NOTE (YOUR 204) UNHELPFUL. ON CONTRARY, IF "NON-LIVING" IS DELETED (AND WE UNDERSTAND FROM HEAVNER/TAYLOR TELCON GCOB WANTS TO DELETE IT), NOTE IS QUITE CLOSE TO OUR POSITION.

6. REQUEST EMBASSY ASK GCOB FOR NEW NOTE DELETING NON-LIVING REFERENCES. AT SAME TIME YOU SHOULD ASSURE GCOB WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS OR ATTEMPTING TO DICTATE THEIR LEGISLATION. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BRIEF THEM ON OUR ENFORCEMENT PLANS IN ADVANCE OF MARCH 1 AND STAND PREPARED DO SO EITHER HERE OR THERE. (WE WILL MAKE SIMILAR POINTS

TO AMBASSADOR JOHNSON.) HOPEFULLY THIS RESPONSE WILL  
SERVE TO SMOOTH RUFFLED FEATHERS AND SET STAGE FOR  
CONSTRUCTIVE EXCHANGE.

7. IF GCOB IS AGREEABLE TO VISIT BY OXMAN GROUP,  
FEBRUARY 21 REMAINS OUR PREFERRED DATE. PLEASE INFORM US  
OF GCOB RESPONSE AND CONFIRM THAT DATE IS ACCEPTABLE ASAP.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE033306  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TJCHEAVNER/BTK  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 28377, 77 NASSAU 194  
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**Subject:** 200 MILE LIMIT FOR FISHERIES ZONE BOUNDARIES  
**TAGS:** PLOS, PBOR, BF, US  
**To:** NASSAU  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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